In 2005 a master plan was developed to refurbish Victoria Park after the closure of Judith Gooderham Pool. I chaired that committee and we were successful in finding infrastructure funding to complete three quarters of that plan with the installation of the splash pad, playground, picnic table shelter and public washrooms. This was followed by replacement of some of the perimeter fencing. What was not completed was the rejuvenation of the tennis courts, as was intended, but with your help I would like to meet that challenge now.

Community needs and interests evolve with time and the current vision for this space would be to resurface the existing asphalt with the layout of a single stand alone tennis court and four stand alone pickle ball courts. This would involve installation of a quality sports surface and the necessary hardware/netting and interior fencing similar to the image below. This is an enhanced version of the layout presented to you by Kent Gillin and he continues as a member of our team.

There is a high degree of interest in the pickle ball courts in particular. Pickle ball is the fastest growing sport in North American and is enjoyed by a broad demographic of the population. There are in excess of 150 individuals on my pickle ball contact list.

With the Rotary Club taking the lead we have initiated discussions with the Kinsmen and Lions organizations. We anticipate a 2021 spring installation. With continued proper protective measures we believe this project can accommodate the location’s dual use as a seasonal ice rink if that usage is to continue.
We are vetting several estimates and will forward a copy once a final determination is made.

Today I am seeking a letter of support as I approach town council for approval and seek grant agency funding.

I would be pleased to provide further information or progress reports as you deem necessary.

Anticipating your support to move this project forward

Your sincerely
Bruce Thomasson
Rotary Club of Goderich
Projects Director.